

PROBE INCREASED GRAIN COST IN U. S.

New York Investigators Trying to Find Out if Criminal Conspiracy Exists.

PERKINS TESTIFIES BEFORE REFEREE

Believes Abnormal Decrease in Visible Supply of Wheat is Caused by European Speculators Buying in Large Quantities and Storing Cereal.

New York, Feb. 17. — George W. Perkins, chairman of the major's committee on food supply, testified Tuesday before Meyer Kusshatun, referee for the state, conducting an inquiry into the increased cost of wheat, flour and bread, that the committee had reason to believe the abnormal decrease in the visible supply of wheat was caused by European speculators buying in large quantities and storing against a continuation of the war.

Visible Supply Shows Decrease. The visible supply showed a decrease of more than a half a million bushels last week, as against a decrease of 150,000 bushels in the same week of last year, he said.

The hearing is being conducted for the purpose of determining whether a criminal conspiracy in violation of the state law is responsible for the increased cost.

Mr. Perkins gave it as the opinion of his committee that the federal government should determine how much wheat the farmers of the United States were holding. The question of speculation, he asserted, was broadly divided into three parts.

"There is the speculation by the farmer at the original source," said Mr. Perkins, "the speculation by the middleman and the speculation in Europe. We know how much of our wheat Europe has taken. If the federal government will determine immediately how much wheat the farmers are holding, we will be able to find out how much can be manipulated by the middleman. If this last amount is large, it will prove an important element in the present investigation."

Seeks Government Policy. Mr. Perkins said the committee further believed the federal government should announce its policy regarding a proposed embargo on wheat, and that the legislature should pass at once a law explicitly stipulating what the weight of bread should be and proper penalties for violations.

Bakers of New York are violating the law which requires them to label loaves as to weight, according to Commissioner Hartigan of the department of weights and measures, who testified next.

"The only serious condition in New York today respecting bread," he said, "is the shortage in the supply of rye bread that forms the principal food of thousands of East Side residents who hail from Russia, Austria and other countries. The shortage is due directly to the war which has completely cut off New York's supply of rye, which comes principally from Russia and Austria."

Council of the United Master Bakers' Association asserted the association, which comprises 3,000 bakers, instantly would comply with the law requiring loaves labeled as to weight if it were established by a test case. He thought Commissioner Hartigan's remarks unjust and unwarranted.

CONFESSES HE TANGOES

MAYOR OF NEW YORK PROUD OF HIS ABILITY TO DANCE NOW AND THEN.

New York, Feb. 17. — Mayor John Purroy Mitchel tangoes and he's proud of it. "Yes, I dance now and then, and if some of those who criticize me for doing so would do so themselves, their disposition might be improved."

This was the mayor's reply to Rev. James V. Chalmers, vicar of Holy Trinity Episcopal church, who attacked him at the Monday preachers' meeting.

"The mayor is a backboneless creature who stays up until 3 in the morning, dancing the tango and then because he gets few things done says he hasn't time," said Rev. Mr. Chalmers.

WRITES WILL, ENDS LIFE

MAN, AFTER HAVING RUN AMUCK, SENDS BULLET THROUGH HIS HEART.

Lewiston, Mont., Feb. 17. — After having run amuck and burned camp wagons and a sheep shed belonging to Walter Winnet, by whom he was employed, W. S. Baldwin wrote his will on the brim of his hat and sent a bullet through his heart. At the time he was hiding under a cut bank and was surrounded by a party of men who were closing in on him. Reason evidently returned to him in a measure, as in his will he left all his money, two horses, a homestead claim and his dog to Mr. Winnet.

Rob Family of \$2,000. Fosteria, O., Feb. 17. — The home of S. F. Croft, traveling salesman, was broken into in the absence of the family. Jewelry and other valuables valued at \$2,000 were stolen.

If the price of meat continues upward, pretty soon it will be only the rich who can afford gravy on their battercakes.

A Convalescent requires a food tonic that will rapidly build up wasted tissue. Rexall Olive Oil Emulsion containing Hypophosphate is a most reliable prescription which we always recommend for that purpose. F. A. Morris.

BRITAIN HURLS DEFIANT AT GERMAN NATION

England Scorns War Zone Edict Issued by the Kaiser's Government.

SETS FORTH HOW SHE WILL RETALIATE

London, Feb. 17. — Great Britain, untroubled by Germany's announcement that beginning at midnight Wednesday she will consider waters surrounding Great Britain and Ireland a war zone and will prey on shipping by sea and air, Tuesday prepared to tighten freight shipments destined for Germany.

"We will make reprisals." "We will make reprisals if you enforce your threat to destroy merchant ships and their crews," is the defiance the British hurl at the Germans.

Germany had proposed to halt enforcement of her war zone order if Great Britain and the allies would not restrict shipments of conditional contraband and foodstuffs destined to the civilian population of Germany.

The British reply to this is an announcement that prohibition against foodstuffs destined for Germany will be formally proclaimed by Wednesday and the government's retaliatory measures against the threatened German submarine blockade will go into immediate effect.

Walter Hines Page, the American ambassador, conferred Tuesday with Sir Edward Grey, the British foreign secretary, concerning the German note offering to cease attacks on British ships if Great Britain will permit foodstuffs for the civilian population to enter Germany.

Discussing the Wilhelm incident, Mr. Page and Sir Edward also discussed the steamer Wilhelm, loaded with food for Germany, which is being held at Falmouth for a prize court and the status of which has not yet been determined.

"Should the efforts of the commissions for the relief of Belgium to buy cargo of the Wilhelm fall the evidence of the owners that the food is destined to the civilian population of Germany alone probably would be submitted to the prize court.

It is considered unlikely, however, in view of Tuesday's developments, that any evidence could be produced which would induce Great Britain to permit the food to go to Germany without the action of any prize court.

Recent additions to the list of prohibited exports of Great Britain include many articles of the sort which might be of use to belligerents in feeding live stock. All sorts of beans, fish meal, oil cake, ofal corn and a score of other products which might be used by countries at war with Great Britain in the care of cattle, horses and other animals are now in the prohibited list.

Rumors of a shortage of forage in Germany and the strict government supervision thereof of possible food for domestic animals are responsible for the extension of the prohibited articles, in Great Britain.

OHIOAN WEDS IN FRANCE

LORAIN GIRL MARRIES RUSSIAN AVIATOR, HER FRIENDS AND RELATIVES HEAR.

Lorain, O., Feb. 17. — Lorain friends and relatives have just received announcements of the marriage of Miss Ellen Percy Barrows, former Lorain school teacher, to Nicholas Popoff, Russian aviator and journalist, Jan. 26, in Cannes, France. The bridegroom has been serving in the French military aviation corps.

Mme. Popoff is a daughter of the late H. J. Barrows, pioneer merchant. After graduating from Northwestern university she became private secretary to Upton Sinclair.

NURSES' HOME OPENED

YOUNGSTOWN HOSPITAL SHOWS NEW STRUCTURE'S INTERIOR TO THE CITIZENS.

Youngstown, O., Feb. 17. — Formal opening of the nurses' home of the Youngstown hospital took place on Tuesday, Feb. 16, when many citizens inspected the \$75,000 structure given to the hospital association by Mrs. Fred D. Wilkerson, John Stambaugh and Henry H. Stambaugh in memory of their parents, John and Caroline Stambaugh.

The three-story gray limestone structure is built after the most approved plans and provides accommodations for 90 nurses.

Maine Relic in Glass Case

Findlay, O., Feb. 17. — Capt. Sigbee's bath tub that was taken from the battleship Maine in Havana harbor, refitted by Urbana, O., and then given to Findlay, after being buffeted about several years, used as a coal receptacle and various other things, now rests in a glass case in the rotunda of the Hancock county court house here. It has been placed there by the work and money of United Spanish War veterans.

A Cave Art Museum.

In the most recently discovered of the prehistoric cave art museums, that in the French Pyrenees of Arles, the mural drawings are in the darkness of the heart of the mountain, 800 feet from the entrance.

The two travelers, who made the accidental discovery, at once sent a plan of the cave to M. Cartailhac and M. Salomon Reinach the French authorities on such matters. The designs include 30 bisons, with horses, stags and wild goats, all drawn in black, but seven of the bisons bear arrows of red as well as black. This is thought to be the most ancient of the art caves of the early stone Age, the figures probably playing some part in ancient mysticism or magic.

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MAPLE SUGAR CROP

The maple trees of the nation produce 47,000 tons of maple sugar annually—about half a pound for each person, says the Indianapolis News. And the demand for the product, it is estimated, is ten times greater than the supply. Despite this fact, statistics show that less than half of the trees available for the purpose are utilized. This means that a good many farmers throughout the country—and Indiana is no exception to the rule—are neglecting to take advantage of an important source of income.

The season for sugar making is at hand, and the farmer might note that it comes at a time when there is little other work to claim his attention. He might take this into consideration, too, as he adds young trees from time to time to his wood lot. Convinced now, as most farmers are, of the value of the wood lot, it ought to be only a short step further to the realization that, by judicious selection of varieties of trees planted, it can be made to yield a revenue both in spring and in autumn. A combination of sugar maples and nut trees would produce the desired result and be worth more in the long run than the plantation set out for the sole purpose of producing fence posts.

Science has turned its inquisitorial eye more than once on the sugar tree, but so far, has failed to solve its mystery. Investigation has merely recorded certain facts; it has not explained them. It is known, for instance, that the sugar maple is far more particular than the uninitiated suspect. For its sap to flow, nights must be cool, clear and still, with the temperature at least 10 degrees below freezing; the days must be warm and sunny, with the temperature rising to 30 degrees above freezing, and, finally, there must be a fall of rain or of snow after four or five successive days of such weather or the sap will cease to flow.

But there is hardly more of a mystery here than there is in the fact that the farmer who has the trees to tap fails to tap them. He needs no demonstration to prove to him that the weather conditions favorable for the flow of sugar sap are favorable for little work about the farm. And he needs, surely, no reminder that an eager and profitable market awaits the product. Why, then, only half the product available is collected and why half of this natural resource is wasted is perplexing to the ordinary mind.

Insulting Art.

"What is your occupation?" "I am an artist." "Yes, but what I mean is what do you do for a living?"—Baltimore American.

BEWARE OF OINTMENTS FOR CATARRH THAT CONTAIN MERCURY.

As mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and acts through the system. Sold by Druggists, Price, 75c per bottle. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation. Advertisement.

Read Harp of Various Things column

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LEGAL NOTICE

Antonette Armenti and Francesco Armenti, who reside in Turin, Potenza, Italy, Europe, residing at Colobraro, Potenza, Italy, Europe, will take notice that George Edwards, Administrator of the estate of Carmine Antonio Simone, deceased, on the 23rd day of January, 1915, filed his petition in the Probate Court, within and for the County of Mahoning and State of Ohio, alleging that the personal estate of said deceased is insufficient to pay his debts and the charges of administering his estate that he died seized in fee simple or an undivided one-half interest in the following described real estate:

Situated in the City of Youngstown, County of Mahoning and State of Ohio and is known as City lot No. 8594 in Atlas Shook's plat recorded in vol. 4, page 7 of the Mahoning County records of plats.

Said lot has a frontage on the northern side of Calvin Street of forty feet, and a depth of equal width of one hundred and forty-five feet.

Also lot No. sixty-five (65) of Elias Shook's plat, situated in Youngstown Township and recorded in vol. 4, P.P. 5 H. 23 Mahoning County records of plats, fronting forty (40) feet on the South side of Ada street and having a depth of equal width of equal width of one hundred and forty-five feet.

That Maria Simione, as widow of said deceased, is entitled to dower and a year's support in said premises.

The prayer of said petition is for the assignment of dower to said Maria Simione, for a sale of said premises subject to said dower estate, for the payment of the personal estate of said deceased and for the payment of said year's support.

The persons first above mentioned will further take notice that they have been made parties defendant to said petition, and that they are required to answer the same on or before the 22nd day of March, 1915.

GEORGE EDWARDS, Administrator Feb. 5, 1915.

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ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE Notice is hereby given that Samuel R. Koenreich, Salem, O., has been appointed and qualified Administrator de bonis non with will annexed of the estate of E. P. Bush, late of Green Township, Mahoning County, Ohio, deceased, by the Probate Court of said county. All persons interested will govern themselves accordingly.

JOHN W. DAVIS, Probate Judge of Mahoning County, C. Feb. 10, 1915.

LEGAL NOTICE

Robert Lymburner, whose place of residence is unknown, will take notice that on the 6th day of February, 1915, Minnie Lymburner filed her petition in the Court of Common Pleas of Mahoning County, Ohio, being Cause No. praying a divorce from the said Robert Lymburner on the grounds of gross neglect of duty, habitual intemperance for three years and more last past, and willful absence for three years and more last past, and the custody of minor child Mildred Lymburner, and that said cause will be for hearing on and after the 5th day of March, 1915.

I. B. Miller, Atty. for Minnie Lymburner. Dated Feb. 6th, 1915. 45-4

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